

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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47

ACTION SS-25

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FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9510

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 2126

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, PFOR, IT, SA
SUBJECT: CONVERSATION WITH PRESIDENT LEONE ON HIS FORTHCOMING
TRIP TO SAUDI ARABIA

1. IN CONVERSATION WITH PRESIDENT LEONE ON FEBRUARY 11, LEONE EXPRESSED TO ME THE HOPE THAT DURING HIS FORTHCOMING (MARCH 2-5) TRIP TO SAUDIA ARABIA AND OMAN HE WOULD BE ABLE TO FURTHER THE GREAT PEACE EFFORTS BEING MADE BY SECRETARY KISSINGER. HE ASKED THAT I CONVEY TO THE SECRETARY HIS HOPES FOR THE SUCCESS OF HIS CURRENT MIDDLE EAST VISIT. PRESIDENT LEONE TOLD ME THAT, IN ADDITION TO TRYING TO DEVELOP CLOSER COMMERCIAL TIES, HE WOULD DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO IMPRESS KING FAISAL WITH THE NECESSITY FOR THE LOWERING OF OIL PRICES. I EXPRESSED OUR APPRECIATION TO PRESIDENT LEONE FOR THE SUPPORT ITALY HAS GIVEN TO OUR ENERGY POLICY.

2. IN A BRIEF DISCUSSION OF THE ITALIAN INTERNAL POLITICAL SITUATION, LEONE AGAIN STATED WITHOUT EQUIVOCATION THAT THE COMMUNISTS WILL NOT BE ALLOWED INTO THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT. HE SAID THAT HE WOULD ALSO MAKE THIS POINT WITH KING FAISAL.
VOLPE

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Message Attributes

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